

EXHIBIT A

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In the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/134,693
Filed: April 30, 2002
Inventor: STAMEY et al.
Title: ONE-PIECE SELF-VENTING DRAIN VALVE

Enclosed:

Reissue Patent Application Transmittal;
Copy of US Patent No. 6,565,746 B1;
Originally-executed Reissue Application Declaration by the Inventor;
Appendix to Reissue Declaration by the Inventors;
Originally executed Power of Attorney;
Originally-executed Reissue Application: Consent of Assignee; Statement of Non-Assignment;
Statement Under 37 CFR 3.73(b);
Original Ribbon Copy of US Patent No. 6,565,746 B1; and
A check in the amount of \$788.00

17513 U.S. PTO
10/803197

8200.565
March 18, 2004
MS/ls


031804

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Reissue application of:

STAMEY, et al.

Original Patent No.: 6,565,746

Issued: May 20, 2003

Serial No. : Unknown

Examiner: Unknown

Filed : Concurrently herewith

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Title: ONE-PIECE SELF-VENTING DRAIN VALVE

Commissioner of Patents &
Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPENDIX TO REISSUE DECLARATION BY THE INVENTORS

Due to an inadvertent error, the patent claims incorrectly included an unnecessary limitation. As such, the applicant claimed less than it was entitled to claim in the patent.

This reissue application is being filed to correct this defect. To wit, applicant is adding a new claim 21, which is substantially identical to patent claim 1 with the word "partially" being deleted from the last paragraph of patent claim 1.

A complete set of claims showing all amendments is attached hereto.

US Patent No. 6,565,746
In re STAMEY, et al.

IN THE CLAIMS

1. A self-venting drain valve for draining a contaminant liquid from a filter housing of a filter assembly, said filter housing having a valve receiving bore through which said liquid may drain and gas may simultaneously enter said filter housing, said valve comprising:

an integral valve body for selectively permitting and preventing draining said contaminant liquid from said filter housing through said bore;

said valve body having a substantially tubular stem portion positioned in said valve receiving bore within said filter housing, said tubular stem portion including a substantially tubular wall member defining an internal passageway and having at least one drain hole therethrough and at least one air vent opening therethrough both adapted to fluidly communicate said internal passageway to an ambient air;

said valve body being selectively positionable within said bore between a closed position wherein said at least one drain hole is sealed for preventing the liquid and air movement through said bore and an open position wherein said at least one drain hole is unsealed and said at least one air vent opening is partially open to said ambient air for allowing both liquid and air movement along said internal passageway within said tubular stem portion of said valve body.

2. The self-venting drain valve as defined in claim 1, wherein said integral valve body further includes a knob portion positioned outside said filter housing and juxtaposed to a lower end of said valve stem portion, said knob portion provided for manually manipulating said self-venting drain valve.

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3. The self-venting drain valve as defined in claim 2, wherein said knob portion of said valve body is provided with a drain reservoir to assist the drainage of said liquid from said filter housing by accumulating said draining liquid exiting said at least one drain hole in said stem portion of said valve body to maintain a constant liquid head and controlled flow resistance.
4. The self-venting drain valve as defined in claim 3, wherein said drain reservoir is substantially annular in shape.
5. The self-venting drain valve as defined in claim 3, wherein said knob portion further including a drain spout adapted to assist the drainage of said liquid from said drain reservoir and allow a user to connect a hose to drain said liquid without spillage.
6. The self-venting drain valve as defined in claim 2, wherein an outer peripheral surface of said knob portion further including a wrench socket adapted to receive a wrench for rotatably driving said valve body between said closed position and said open position.
7. The self-venting drain valve as defined in claim 2, wherein said valve body including said tubular stem portion and said knob portion is homogenously formed as a one-piece unitary member.

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8. The self-venting drain valve as defined in claim 7, wherein said valve body is made of a plastic material.

9. The self-venting drain valve as defined in claim 8, wherein said valve body is manufactured by an injection molding process.

10. The self-venting drain valve as defined in claim 1, wherein an upper portion of said at least one air vent opening remains within said filter housing while said valve body is in said open position.

11. The self-venting drain valve as defined in claim 1, wherein said at least one air vent opening is disposed above said at least one drain hole.

12. The self-venting drain valve as defined in claim 1, including two air vent openings formed through tubular wall member of said valve body and two opposite drain holes formed therethrough.

13. The self-venting drain valve as defined in claim 1, wherein a lower end of said tubular wall member comprises external threads that threadedly secure said valve body in said closed position.

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14. The self-venting drain valve as defined in claim 13, wherein said valve receiving bore comprises internal threads adapted to engage said external threads on said lower ends of said wall member to hold said valve body in said closed positions.

15. The self-venting drain valve as defined in claim 1, wherein an upper end of said tubular wall member comprises at least one cantilever snap arm adapted to engage said valve receiving bore for retaining said valve body in said open position.

16. The self-venting drain valve as defined in claim 15, wherein said at least one air vent opening is defined by an axially extending space provided between said tubular wall member and said snap arm.

17. The self-venting drain valve as defined in claim 16, wherein said axially extending space defining said at least one air vent opening is open to a top edge of said wall member of said stem portion of said valve body.

18. The self-venting drain valve as defined in claim 1, further comprising a gasket positioned around said lower end of said valve stem portion to seal said internal passageway when said drain valve is in said closed position.

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19. The self-venting drain valve as defined in claim 2, wherein a generally cylindrical outer peripheral surface of said knob portion is provided with axially oriented ribs to facilitate manual gripping of said knob portion of said valve body.

20. A self-venting drain valve for draining a contaminant liquid from a filter housing of a filter assembly, said filter housing having an internally threaded valve receiving bore through which said liquid may drain and gas may simultaneously enter said filter housing, said valve comprising:

an integral valve body for selectively permitting and preventing draining said contaminant liquid from said filter housing through said bore;

said valve body having a tubular stem portion positioned in said valve receiving bore within said filter housing and a knob portion positioned outside said filter housing and juxtaposed to a lower end of said valve stem portion for manually manipulating said self-venting drain valve;

said tubular stem portion including a substantially tubular wall member defining an internal passageway and having two opposite drain holes therethrough formed in a lower end thereof, two opposite cantilever snap arms formed in an upper end of said tubular wall member and two opposite air vent openings therethrough defined by axially extending spaces provided between said tubular wall member and said snap arms, said drain holes and said air vent openings adapted to fluidly communicate said internal passageway to an ambient air, said air vent openings are disposed above said drain holes;

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said knob portion of said valve body is provided with a substantially annular drain reservoir to assist the drainage of said liquid from said filter housing by accumulating said liquid exiting said drain holes in said stem portion of said valve body to maintain a constant liquid head and controlled flow resistance and a drain spout adapted to assist the drainage of said liquid from said drain reservoir and allow a user to connect a hose to drain said liquid without spillage;

said valve body being selectively positionable within said bore between a closed position wherein said drain holes are sealed for preventing said liquid and air movement through said bore and an open position wherein said drain holes are unsealed and said at least one air vent opening is partially open to said ambient air for allowing both liquid and air movement along said internal passageway within said tubular stem portion of said valve body;

a lower end of said tubular wall member comprises external threads adapted to engage said threaded valve receiving bore for securing said valve body in said closed position;

said cantilever snap arms are adapted to engage said threaded valve receiving bore for retaining said valve body in said open position;

an outer peripheral surface of said knob portion further including a wrench socket adapted to receive a wrench for rotatably driving said valve body between said closed position and said open position;

wherein said valve body including said tubular stem portion and said knob portion is homogenously formed as a single piece unitary member of a plastic material by an injection molding process.

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21. A self-venting drain valve for draining a contaminant liquid from a filter housing of a filter assembly, said filter housing having a valve receiving bore through which said liquid may drain and gas may simultaneously enter said filter housing, said valve comprising:

an integral valve body for selectively permitting and preventing draining said contaminant liquid from said filter housing through said bore;

said valve body having a substantially tubular stem portion positioned in said valve receiving bore within said filter housing, said tubular stem portion including a substantially tubular wall member defining an internal passageway and having at least one drain hole therethrough and at least one air vent opening therethrough both adapted to fluidly communicate said internal passageway to an ambient air;

said valve body being selectively positionable within said bore between a closed position wherein said at least one drain hole is sealed for preventing the liquid and air movement through said bore and an open position wherein said at least one drain hole is unsealed and said at least one air vent opening is open to said ambient air for allowing both liquid and air movement along said internal passageway within said tubular stem portion of said valve body.

PTO/SB/81 (09-03)

Approved for use through 11/30/2005, OMB 0651-0015
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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**POWER OF ATTORNEY
and
CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS
INDICATION FORM**

Application Number	Reissue 6,565,746
Filing Date	Issued May 20, 2003
First Named Inventor	STAMEY et al.
Title	One-Piece Self-Venting
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	8200-565

Drain
Valve

I hereby appoint:

 Practitioners associated with the Customer Number:

28410

OR

 Practitioner(s) named below:

Name	Registration Number

as my/our attorney(s) or agent(s) to prosecute the application identified above, and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

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28410

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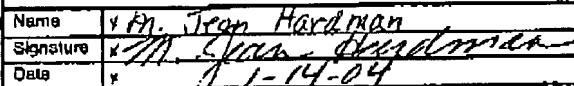
Telephone

Fax

I am the:

 Applicant/Inventor. Assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71.
Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/66)

SIGNATURE of Applicant or Assignee of Record

Name	Mr. Sean Hardman
Signature	
Date	1-14-04
Telephone	419-535-4840

NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below.

 Total of _____ forms are submitted.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.31 and 1.33. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to use (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 3 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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PTO/SB/53 (05-03)

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REISSUE APPLICATION: CONSENT OF ASSIGNEE; STATEMENT OF NON-ASSIGNMENT		Docket Number (Optional) 8200.565
This is part of the application for a reissue patent based on the original patent identified below.		
Name of Patentee(s) DANA CORPORATION		Date Patent Issued May 20, 2003
Patent Number 6,565,746		
Title of Invention ONE-PIECE SELF-VENTING VALVE		
<p>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Filed herein is a statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b). (Form PTO/SB/96)</p> <p>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Ownership of the patent is in the inventor(s), and no assignment of the patent is in effect.</p>		
<p>One of boxes 1 or 2 above must be checked. If multiple assignees, complete this form for each assignee. If box 2 is checked, skip the next entry and go directly to "Name of Assignee".</p> <p>The written consent of all assignees and inventors owning an undivided interest in the original patent is included in this application for reissue.</p>		
<p>The assignee(s) owning an undivided interest in said original patent is/are <u>Dana Corporation</u> and the assignee(s) consents to the accompanying application for reissue.</p>		
<p>Name of assignee/inventor (if not assigned)</p>		
Signature <i>M. Jean Hardman</i>		Date <i>1-14-04</i>
<p>Typed or printed name and title of person signing for assignee (if assigned)</p> <p><i>M. Jean Hardman, Asst. Secretary</i></p>		

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.172. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 6 minutes to complete, including the gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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PTO/SB/96 (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2008. OMB 0551-0031

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STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 3.73(b)Applicant/Patent Owner: DANA CORPORATIONApplication No./Patent No.: 6,565,746 Filed/Issue Date: May 20, 2003Entitled: ONE-PIECE SELF-VENTING DRAIN VALVEDANA CORPORATION, a Corporation
(Name of Assignee) (Type of Assignee, e.g., corporation, partnership, university, government agency, etc.)

states that it is:

1. the assignee of the entire right, title, and interest; or
 2. an assignee of less than the entire right, title and interest.
 The extent (by percentage) of its ownership interest is _____ %
 in the patent application/patent identified above by virtue of either:

A. An assignment from the inventor(s) of the patent application/patent identified above. The assignment was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel 012968, Frame 0309, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

OR

B. A chain of title from the inventor(s), of the patent application/patent identified above, to the current assignee as shown below:

1. From: _____ To: _____
 The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at
 Reel _____, Frame _____, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

2. From: _____ To: _____
 The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at
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3. From: _____ To: _____
 The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at
 Reel _____, Frame _____, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

Additional documents in the chain of title are listed on a supplemental sheet.

Copies of assignments or other documents in the chain of title are attached.

[NOTE: A separate copy (i.e., the original assignment document or a true copy of the original document) must be submitted to Assignment Division in accordance with 37 CFR Part 3, if the assignment is to be recorded in the records of the USPTO. See MPEP 302.08]

The undersigned (whose title is supplied below) is authorized to act on behalf of the assignee.

3/18/04Matthew Stavish, 36,286

Date

Typed or printed name

301/896-0600

Signature

Telephone number

Matthew Stavish

Title

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 3.73(b). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application from to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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